

constricted to form a long “neck”. Of the two types of denticulate hairs, the larger one has a fine, tapered, not hook-like apex.

Revised key to *Basiceros* workers and gynes:

1. Occipital margin of head rounded, forming a continuous or nearly continuous raised crest..... 2
 - Occipital margin of head trapezoidal or subrectangular, not forming a continuous crest..... 3
2. In full-face view, crest continuous around posterior part of vertex and separated from median convexity of vertex by a broad, uninterrupted sulcus parallel to the crest *B. militaris*
 - Crest medially emarginate and confluent at this point with median convexity of vertex.....
..... *B. disciger*
3. Mandible subtriangular, strongly bent ventrally and with the outer borders straight basally; anepisternum deeply depressed
..... *B. scambognathus*
 - Mandible triangular, not strongly bent ventrally, outer borders usually convex basally; mesopleura at the same level as the surrounding surface..... 4
4. Head nearly as broad as long with the occipital lobes rounded; in frontal view, intermandibular space much shorter than the half length of mandibles; gaster with few specialized hairs longer than the basal pilosity..... 5
 - Head distinctly longer than broad with the occipital lobes angulated; in frontal view, intermandibular space broad, with about half length of the mandibles; gaster densely covered with specialized hairs longer than the basal pilosity 6
5. Petiolar node and postpetiole totally covered with dense pilosity; petiolar node well developed and subrectangular in dorsal view; ventral carina of petiole with many developed teeth of different shapes *B. conjugans*
 - Petiolar node and postpetiole weakly covered with pilosity; petiolar node subcylindrical in dorsal view to almost obsolete; ventral carina of petiole with a single developed tooth at the anterior portion of peduncle..... *B. convexiceps*
6. Basal portion of mandibles with dense pilosity formed by whitish squamiform hairs; ventral carina of petiole with a short edge at the anterior portion of peduncle..... *B. singularis*
 - Basal portion of mandibles smooth and shiny; ventral carina of petiole with a well developed edge at the anterior portion of peduncle, followed by smaller denticles of different shapes *B. manni*

Basiceros scambognathus (Brown) n. comb.

(Figs. 1-4)

Creightonidris scambognatha Brown, 1949:89. Holotype gyne, BRAZIL: Goiás, Campinas, x.1935 (Schwarzmeier) (MZSP) [examined]. Brown & Kempf, 1960:178, figs. 5, 8, 10 (genus revision, type locality); Kempf, 1972:80 (catalogue); Lattke, 1991:59 (record in Venezuela); Bolton, 1995a:1049 (census); Bolton, 1995b:146 (catalogue); Delabie, 2000:272 (distribution); Bolton, 2003:184 (synoptic classification); Castilho *et al.*, in press. (distribution); *new combination*.

Meranoplus singularis Smith, 1858:195, pl. 13, figs. 6, 7 (only the gyne). Holotype gyne: BRAZIL: Amazonas: Tefé (formerly known as Ega), no date, (no collector) [not examined].

Ceratobasis singularis Smith, 1860:78, pl. 4, figs. 12, 13 (only the gyne).

Worker: HW 1.13; HL 1.25, CI 92.31; ML 0.46; SL 0.96, SI 83.33; WL 1.52; HFL 1.30; TL 6.00. Color dark brown, appendages somewhat lighter; mesopleuron, petiolar peduncle and gaster with ferruginous areas. Mandibles smooth and shining with minute scattered punctures; inner surface of antennal scrobes with transversal rugulation over fine punctuation; surface of head rugulose, the rugae forming a loose net with deep cells, with whole integument finely punctuated; lateral face of pronotum and anterior coxae with gross punctuation, pronotal disc with punctuation and loose net of rugulae; mesopleuron, metapleuron, petiolar node, postpetiole and surface of the gaster feebly shining and rather smooth, with abundant punctures. Dorsum of head, laterobasal mandibular area, mesosomal dorsum, petiole, postpetiole and first gastral sternite with small, whitish, subapressed and apressed spatulate hairs; hairs dense on head and antennal scapes, less abundant on mesosoma, waist and gaster; appendages with abundant cream-colored subapressed spatulate hairs directed apically and becoming gradually finer towards tarsi; posterior part of head, dorsum of mesosoma, posterolateral corner of pronotum, abdominal segments II-VII with fairly abundant short, erect, strongly clavate whitish-golden hairs; distinct group of long filiform hairs project from labrum; pygidium with short erect hairs.

Head subtriangular. Mandible long and subtriangular; external margin of basal portion almost parallel; apical portion slightly longer than the basal one, external border strongly convergent with the apex of the other mandible, and nearly straight mas-